

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3068

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 12191

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

FOR NEA/INS LAINGAN FROM MOYNIHAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CVIS, IN, US

SUBJECT:

1. IN AN ADDRESS IN MADRAS SEPTEMBER 9 PRIME MINISTER GANDHI CITED AN UNCTAD REPORT "THE REVERSE TRANSFER FOR TECHNOLOGY: ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE OUTFLOW OF TRAINED PERSONNEL FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (BRAIN DRAIN)" WHICH, SHE SAID, STATES THAT IN 1970 ALONE INDIA GAVE THE EQUIVALENT OF RS. 6,563 MILLION. (\$52.5 MILLION). THIS IS GETTING TO BE A FAIRLY STEADY THEME HERE AND, WITH RESPECT AT LEAST TO MEDICAL DOCTORS, IN CERTAINLY JUSTIFIED. THE WHOLE SUBJECT IS, OF COURSE, COMPLEX. WE GET PERSONS TRAINED IN INDIA. CORRESPONDINGLY, WE SUBSIDIZE INDIAN STUDENTS TRAINED IN THE UNITED STATES. BUT WHEN ALMOST THE WHOLE GRADUATING CLASS OF ONE OF THE BEST MEDICAL SCHOOLS IN INDIA CHARTERS A BUS TO DRIVE TO THE BOMBAY CONSULATE ON THE DAY OF GRADUATION. . . WELL THE TIME HAS COME TO DO SOMETHING. IT IS A SCANDAL FOR BOTH GOVERNMENTS. COULD WE ENTER A GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT WITH INDIA NOT TO ISSUE VISAS TO INDIAN DOCTORS? POSSIBLY ALSO SOME SIMILAR HIGH SKILLED OCCUPATIONS? THE IMMIGRATION LAWS ARE SO

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COMPLEX. DELIBERATELY SO, I ASSUME. OUR CONSULS GENERALLY FEEL

THEY HAVE BUT LITTLE DISCRETION IN SUCH MATTERS.

2. I WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW WHO TO TALK WITH ABOUT THIS. HENCE I
TURN TO MY TRUSTY GUARDIAN, BRUCE LAINGAN. PERHAPS THE DIRECTOR
OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE IS THE MAN, PERHAPS
NOT. IN ANY EVENT, TWO QUESTIONS. DO YOU THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD
IDEA TO PROPOSE SUCH AN AGREEMENT. COULD WE DO SO? OBVIOUSLY I
THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO PRESENT TO THE INDIANS. LET
THEM KNOW THEY CANNOT GIVE US THIS STUFF WITHOUT EXPECTING SOME-
THING BACK. VERY NICELY TO SAY THAT NOTHING WOULD PLEASE US MORE
THAN TO STOP GIVING IMMIGRATION VISAS TO THE RELATIVES OF THE
CABINET. ALSO THERE IS A LEGITIMATE CONCERN HERE: INDIA NEEDS
THE DOCTORS SHE PRODUCES. I WOULD THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD THING
FOR THE SECRETARY TO BE ABLE TO PROPOSE.
MOYNIHAN

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